(c) the funds allocated for this purpose by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) The Delhi Administration has reported that no new area has been located in the existing Bhati mines in Delhi during the last one year.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Establishment of a development council for fish processing industry

2611. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a development council for fish processing industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A Development Council for Marine, Meat and Poultry indutries is being constituted.

Production of raw cotton

2612. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total production of raw cotton during the last five years;

(b) what was the total export and import of raw cotton during the said period; and

(c) what was the reason for the increase in the cotton yarn price for the handloom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The total production of cotton (lint) during the last five years was 369 lakh bales of 170 Kg. each as indicated below:

(Lakh bales of 170 Kg. each)

Year	*Production*
1983-84	64
1984-85	85
1985-86	87
1986-87	69
1987-88	64
TOTAL :	369

(b) The total export and import of cotton during the said period i.e., 1983-84 to 1987-88 were 24.1 lakh bales and 0.8 lakh bales respectively

(c) The increase in the prices of cotton yarn for the handloom sector can be attributed to factors such as rise in the prices of cotton and incease in demand for cotton yarn.

Appointment of workers in Vasant Vihar CPWD complex

2613. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in CPWD Enquiry of Vasant Vihar CPWD Complex, New Delhi the workers are appointed without having knowledge of the character antecedents, which the worker bears;

(b) whether Government propose to get the character antecedents verified through Police authorities of all the workers employed by the CPWD for maintenance work through Contractors in the near future; if so, by when and if not the reasons; and

(c) whether any demand from the residents of that area had been received by the CPWD authorities concerned; if so the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Verification of character antecedents

done only in the case of regular employees. There is no system of verification of character antecedents of casual workers.

(b) The contractor doing maintenance work are small contractors and have no permanent labour with them. Getting police verification of casual workers of such contractors is not practicable because the workers are of casual nature.

(c) Yes. One such demand has been received from the residents of the Vasant Vihar by the Project Manager, Mehrauli Badarpur Road Housing Project for engaging workers after verification of charactor and antecedents etc. No action has been taken on this demand due to the reason mentioned in reply to part (b) above.

Telecast of prices alongwith advertisements

2614. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue strict instructions to Doordarshan to exhibit prices of all commodities while exhibiting their advertisements; and

(b) if so, by when; and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of variations in local taxes like sales tax, octroi etc, and added cost of transport, the retail prices of most products are not uniform for the whole country. As such, it is not practicable to show the prices of commodities in Doordarshan commercial advertisement. Moreover, Doordarshan has no machinery to keep track of the current retail price of each and every product which is telecast.

Indian labour to Gulf countries

2615. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government have taken on the question of waiving the mandatory condition to authorised Labour recruiting agencies to deposit one-way advance air fare in foreign exchange or proof of two-way passage at the cost of the employer for sending Indian labour to Gulf countries, as represented by various Labour Recruiting Agencies; and

(b) what further steps are being taken to prevent the huge foreign exchange loss by way of the above stipulation by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) The Emigration Act, 1983 and the Rules framed thereunder set out the conditions under which emigrant workers can proceed abroad for work. The Act was framed to prevent exploitation of such workers. Under the Rules, to and fro air passages at employers cost have to be provided for in every contract for employment. All emigrant workers have to fulfil the provisions of the Act and the Rules thereunder, and hence there can arise no question of estimating any such loss of jobs.

Interviews of muster roll workers of CPWD

2616. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that interviews for the post of Beldars, Khalisis,Chowkidar, Pump Operators and Wiremen were held by CPWD for regularisation of the services of the Muster Roll workers of CPWD during the last six months;

(b) if so, the number of Muster Roll Workers appeared/qualified in each of the interviews, category-wise;

(c) the number of those, who have been regularised category-wise; and

(d) by when the remaining qualified candidates are likely to be regularised?